



# Middle School Newsletter

## September 14, 2009

### **Note from the Middle School:**

We are still working out the quirks for our newsletter. This is a temporary newsletter for the time being. We hope to have a newsletter that would include students' corner.

### **Important dates:**

**Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>** – Deaf Awareness event at RMDS (more information to come)



## Sara Lee's corner

**Springers:** Reading: We focused on character study and nicknames of the characters in Holes. They had to identify the characteristic traits of the characters. We are currently reading chapters 8 through 11. We discussed about the flashback technique used in the book. Also, we continue to work in our literature journal by responding to the text with our thoughts, feelings or experiences. Writing: We discussed different types of sentences (declarative, interrogative and imperative). We worked on the writing process with our writing pieces (My Dream Vacation and My Academic Goal). We had our papers edited by our peers. Then some students held teacher conferences.

**Wolves:** Reading: The students presented their findings about the house mouse. We finally began reading chapter 1 in The Mouse and the Motorcycle. We focused on the setting of the story as well as characters. We began some vocabulary study.

Writing: We worked on our writing pieces (My Dream Vacation and My Academic Goal). Some of us shared our work with our peers and got feedback. We discussed types of sentences (declarative, interrogative and imperative). We took notes using a t-chart.

**ASL:** This week we watched several videos on ABC stories, number stories and ASL poetry. This helps us to come up with ideas for our performance on Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>. The students will work on their own story/poetry next week. The students presented their Deaflympics projects to the classes. They did a great job. The idioms we worked on the past two weeks are:

ASL: VOMIT and FISH SWALLOW  
English: Hit the books, under the weather. There will be a quiz based on the idioms we learned next Friday.

## Jeff's corner

**Vocabulary:** Green Group/ Orange Group/ Blue Group: We have been study the spelling, part of speech and definition for each word. We focus on writing the word on the line in the sentence. We read the synonyms and antonyms. We also worked on vocabulary study.

**Grammar:** We have been study part of speech and definition for each word. We focus on writing the word on the line in the sentence. We also worked on Verbs Tense, and Irregular Verb Forms

**Math:** Green Group/Blue Group: Our student learned how to measure, draw and classify angles (Geometry)

**Earth Science:** Our students learned how to identify Rock types with data table: Igneous rocks, sedimentary rocks, and metamorphic rocks. They should be able to identify these 3 groups of rocks.

**Physical Science:** Our students learned how to calculate and measure the density of an object using metric units of volume and mass.

**Technology:** Our student learned how to use scanner. Our project will be "Let make a Books" power point from our iMac Computer Lab room.

## Mary's corner

**Reading:** Wizard Wands: The students have been reading Mr. Henshaw written by Beverly Cleary from page 1 to 35. Our main focus is to analyze the character's mood, settings, and summarizing. The students have been working with their guide reading assignments on searching for the settings, describing the characters, and summarizing.

Twilight: The students have been reading The Story of Anne Frank written by Brenda Ralph Lewis. First we discussed the genre of the book which it is non-fiction. Then we discussed how much we know about World War II. The students read from page 1 to 21. They have been working with guide reading assignment searching for settings, describing the characters, and summarizing.

**Writing:** Wizard Wands: The students have worked on writing letters to someone they admire the most. They did peer editing with each other's work. They also worked on word orders and sentence parts.

Twilight: The students have been writing "Dear Diary" letter. They completed peer editing task. The students will have one-on-one conference with the teacher to revise their writing. They also did work with word ordering and sentence parts.

**Math 6<sup>th</sup> grade:** Orange group: The students have been working with place values with decimal points. They will continue to practice identifying place values with different digit numbers. We will have Chapter 1 test coming up. Purple Group: The students completed Chapter 1 test. The students are now working on multiplying with decimal points on Chapter 3.

**U.S. History-7/8<sup>th</sup> grade:** The students have been studying about Native Americans before the Europeans arrive to America. They worked in groups to research on how different groups of Native Americans survive in different ways across the country. Now the students are learning about European Explorations and Settlements.

**U.S. Geography-6<sup>th</sup> grade-** The students learned on different roles of social scientists. Now, they are working on creating maps of North America. They will have a presentation this Thursday.